## Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



District I Representative Robbie Howe

Arthur "Archie" Larose, Chairman Mike Bongo, Secretary/Treasurer

District II Representative Lyman L. Losh District III Representative Eugene "Ribs" Whitebird

June 15, 2009

USDA Rural Development Attn: Mark S. Plank 1400 Independence Avenue, MS 1571 Washington, DC 20250-1571

RE:

Proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission System

Goodhue, Rice, Dakota, Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, and

Houston Counties, Minnesota

Buffalo, Trempealeau, and La Crosse Counties, Wisconsin

LL-THPO Number: 09-121-NCRI

Dear Mr. Plank:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1992 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (38CFR800).

T-003-001

I have reviewed the documentation; after careful consideration of our records, I have determined that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe does not have any concerns regarding sites of religious or cultural importance in this area.

Should any human remains or suspected human remains be encountered, all work shall cease and the following personnel should be notified immediately in this order: County Sheriff's Office and Office of the State Archaeologist. If any human remains or culturally affiliated objects are inadvertently discovered this will prompt the process to which the Band will become informed.

Please note: The above determination does not "exempt" future projects from Section 106 review. In the event of any other tribe notifying us of concerns for a specific project, we may re-enter into the consultation process.

You may contact me at (218) 335-2940 if you have questions regarding our review of this project. Please refer to the LL-THPO Number as stated above in all correspondence with this project.

Respectfully submitted.

Gina M. Lemon

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office \* Established in 1996
An office within the Division of Resource Management
115 Sixth Street NW, Suite E \* Cass Lake, Minnesotta 56633
(218) 335-2940 \* FAX (218) 335-2974
glemon@live.com or www.nalhpo.org (Members since 1998)

## T-003-001

RUS appreciates the response from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe regarding consultation on the proposed project.